

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to applicant's amendments, remarks and request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 filed on September 11, 2008.
2. **Claims 1, 6 and 8** have been amended.
3. **Claims 9-12** have been cancelled.
4. **Claims 1-8** are currently allowed.
5. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 to Claims 1-4, 6 and 8 are withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments and/or remarks with respect to the claims.
6. The rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 to Claims 5 and 7 are withdrawn in view of Applicant's amendments and/or remarks with respect to the claims.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE)

7. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on September 11, 2008 has been entered.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

8. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant invention is generally relates to a printing apparatus which display handling explanation of printing, such as selectable various functions and operation methods relating to printing on a display screen.

With regard to Claim 1, the closest prior arts of record, Makino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,388,251) and Hastings et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,885,012) does not disclose or suggest, among the other limitations, the additional required limitation of “*display switching means for switching display of the display screen from the option display to: a function explanation display when the function explanation for explaining th function of the tentative option is selected as the handling explanation; a plurality of options in a second hierarchy that is related to the determinate option after the tentative option is determined as the determinate options; and an operating explanation display when the operating explanation for guiding the next operation from the state of the option display is selected as the handling explanation*”. These additional features in combination with all the other features required in the claimed invention are neither taught nor suggested by Makino et al. and Hastings et al.

With regard to Claims 2-5, the claims are depending from the independent Claim 1, each encompasses the required limitations recited in the independent claim discussed above.

With regard to Claim 6, the closest prior arts of record, Makino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,388,251) and Hastings et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,885,012) does not disclose or suggest, among the other limitations, the additional required limitation of “*display switching means for switching the display of the display screen from the option display to: a function explanation display when the function explanation for explaining the function of the tentative option is selected as the handling explanation; a plurality of options in a second hierarchy that is related to the determinate option after the tentative option is determined as the determinate option; and an operating explanation display when the operating explanation for guiding the next operation*

from the state of the option display is selected as the handling explanation". These additional features in combination with all the other features required in the claimed invention are neither taught nor suggested by Makino et al. and Hastings et al.

With regard to Claim 7, the claim is depending from the independent Claim 6, each encompasses the required limitations recited in the independent claim discussed above.

With regard to Claim 8, the closest prior arts of record, Makino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,388,251) and Hastings et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,885,012) does not disclose or suggest, among the other limitations, the additional required limitation of *"display switching steps switching the display of the display screen from the option display to: a function explanation display when the function explanation for explaining the function of the tentative option is selected as the handling explanation; a plurality of options in a second hierarchy that is related to the determinate option after the tentative option is determined as the determinate option; and an operating explanation display when the operating explanation for guiding the next operation from the state of the option display is selected as the handling explanation".* These additional features in combination with all the other features required in the claimed invention are neither taught nor suggested by Makino et al. and Hastings et al.

9. Therefore, Claims No. 1-8 are allowed.

10. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacky X. Zheng whose telephone number is (571) 270-1122. The examiner can *normally* be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., Alt. Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler M. Lamb can be reached on (571) 272-7406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

12. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jacky X. Zheng/
Examiner, Art Unit 2625
October 2, 2008

/Twyler L. Haskins/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2625